



ALL IN

13+
TEEN 124

NIGHTWING



DEX 2024

**RECKLESS
PURSUIT**

WATTERS
SOY
GANDINI

ALL IN



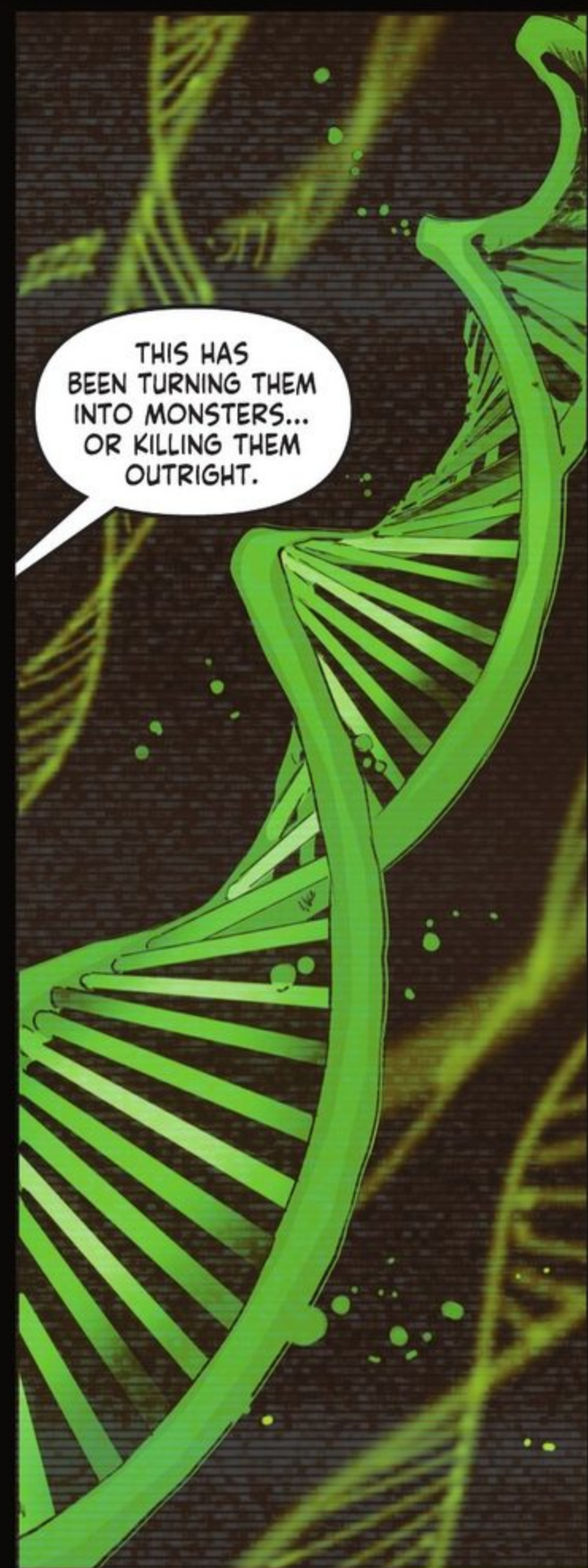
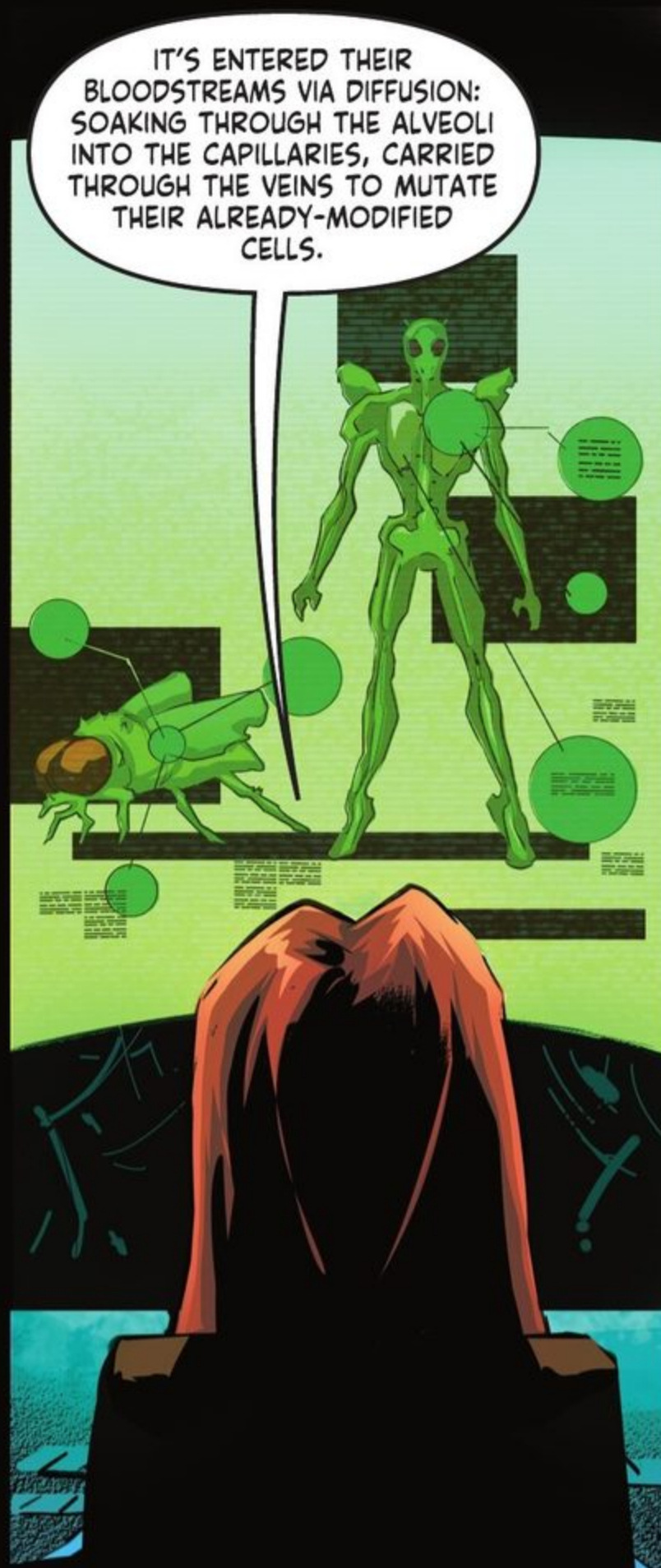
ABSOLUTE



**BEYOND MARS.
BEYOND HUMANITY.
ABSOLUTE OUTSIDER.**

Written by **DENIZ CAMP** • Art and cover by **JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ**

A startling evolution of the Absolute Universe beginning in **MARCH**



I'M A
UNIVERSAL
DONOR.

WHO ELSE
HERE KNOWS
THEIR BLOOD
TYPE?



NIGHTWING.

YOU THINK
US TEDDIES ARE
GOING TO LIFT
A FINGER TO HELP
THOSE MURDERING
JUNKIES?

LAST YEAR,
ONE OF 'EM *SPAT* IN
THE FACE OF MY BOY
TICK HERE.



ACID
SPIT. I
MISS MY
NOSE.



WE WOULDN'T BE UNDER THE
SAME %\$&*@?\$ ROOF AS 'EM
IF *YOU* WEREN'T GUARANTEEIN'
THE PEACE.





GUESS I'M DOING THIS SOLO, THEN.

BRYCE--
OUTTA HERE,
KIDDO. YOU
DON'T NEED TO
SEE THIS.



NIGHTWING,
THE HOSPITAL--

WON'T
DO ANYTHING,
ORACLE.

TOO
MUCH LIABILITY
IF THEY'RE FOUND
TO HAVE OPERATED
ON NON-HUMAN
BODIES.

I HAVE
THREE OF THEM
HERE UNLIKELY TO
SURVIVE THE NEXT FEW
HOURS, EVEN *WITH*
TRANSFUSION.

HMPH.



YOU ONLY
HAVE SO MUCH
BLOOD TO GIVE,
BOY WONDER.

COME ON. I'VE BEEN TO
SPACE. I GET *SHOT* AT
EVERY NIGHT.

THIS ISN'T
GONNA BE WHAT
KILLS ME.

PLEASE. NO
SECRETS BETWEEN
US, DICK. YOU'RE NOT
SURE ABOUT THIS.
I CAN HEAR IT IN
YOUR VOICE.

THERE'S
NO OTHER
WAY.



CRYSTAL. YOU
USED TO ASSIST
DR. PROBOSCIS,
RIGHT?

HELP ME SET UP
THIS INFUSION
PUMP.

I DON'T
UNDERZZTAND.





HELLO.
IT'S ME, THE
ZANNI. HAVE
YOU MISSED
ME?

I'VE
MISSED
YOU.

DID YOU
THINK ME ANOTHER
VILLAIN FOR NIGHTWING
TO BATTLE AND DEFEAT?
TO BE OVERCOME BY
HEROICS--BACKFLIPS
AND GRIT AND THE
SKIN OF HIS
TEETH?

HOW SWEET.
BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT
THE CIRQUE DU SIN IS.
THAT IS NOT OUR
FUNCTION.

WE ARE
THE CHILDREN OF
WERTHAM. WE ARE
THE CORRUPTION THAT
IS MANIFEST IN ALL
PERFORMANCE.

WE ARE
THE VIOLENCE IN
THE VIDEO GAME, THE
BACKMASKED LYRIC
IN THE POPULAR
SONG.

WE ARE
EVERYTHING THAT
DRAWS YOU TO ART,
TO THE WORDS
ON A PAGE.

THE THRILL OF
THE TAINT OF DEATH
THAT IS THE JOY OF
THE CIRCUS.

RIGHT
NOW, FOR
EXAMPLE...



DICK GRAYSON
HAS GIVEN OVER
TWO PINTS OF BLOOD
TO EACH OF THE
THREE FLYBOIZ WHO
REQUIRED IMMEDIATE
TRANSFUSION.

THIS IS
ALMOST HALF
THE BLOOD IN AN
ADULT HUMAN BODY.
IT IS FAR MORE THAN
CAN SAFELY BE GIVEN
WHILE REMAINING
CONSCIOUS...

...WITHOUT
TOEING ONE
FOOT FROM THIS
WORLD INTO
THE NEXT.

THIS MIGHT
BE A GOOD TIME TO
VISIT UPON HIM FOR
THE SECOND TIME IN
HIS LIFE, DON'T
YOU THINK?



BECAUSE THIS IS
ONE OF THOSE TIMES
IN WHICH HE IS SURE
TO SEE ME.

YOU.

ME.
HELLO,
LITTLE CIRCUS
BOY.



I'M
HALLUCINATING.

I SAW YOU AS A CHILD.
WHEN OLIVIA PEARCE DOSED
ME WITH SOMETHING.

I'M SEEING YOU
AGAIN NOW BECAUSE
SHE'S COME BACK
INTO MY LIFE.

OLIVIA.
O, OUR SWEET
COLOMBINA.

SHE'S DOING
IT ALL BECAUSE
OF YOU, YOU
KNOW.



DON'T WORRY. WE HAVEN'T
TOLD HER YOUR BORING CIVILIAN NAME.
OUR LITTLE *SECRET*, AMM?

AND YOU'RE
SEEING ME BECAUSE
YOU'RE *DYING*.

BUT A LITTLE PUSH
AND A SHOVE, AND YOU'LL
BE BACK IN THE WAKING WORLD.
WE DON'T WANT YOU ON THIS SIDE
OF THE CURTAIN YET.



SWEET *CIRCUS BOY*. YOU'RE GOING TO
MAKE SUCH A WONDERFUL RINGMASTER
FOR THE CIRQUE DU SIN.



UGH. THIS
HALLUCINATION
SUCKS.
YOU
SUCK.





DAMN IT.

TWO DIDN'T.
THAT MEANZZ ONE
OF THEM *DID*.

YOU
ZZAVED HIZZ
LIFE.



YOU'RE
DONE? THEN
GET 'EM OUTTA
HERE.

CAN'T BELIEVE YOU
WASTED YOUR BLOOD
ON THESE SCUMBAGS,
NIGHTWING.



BURN IN HELL,
YOU JUMPED-UP
FURRY.

GIVE ME
AN EXCUSE,
BUG.



STOP IT!

STAY
OUTTA THIS,
BRYCE!

MAMA BEAR
ISN'T COMING
BACK. NEITHER IS
THE FLYBOIZ
BOSS.

NIGHTWING'S
TRIED TO HELP ALL
OF US, BUT *YOU*
STILL JUST WANT
TO FIGHT.



WHAT'S THE POINT? WHAT DOES THAT DO FOR ANY OF US, OTHER THAN MAKE THE WHOLE CITY THINK IT'S OKAY FOR US TO DIE?

THE COPS **KILLED** MY BROTHER, AND THEY PUT IT IN THE PAPERS LIKE IT WAS A **GOOD THING**. BECAUSE OF ALL **THIS**.



THIS IS \$%#@.

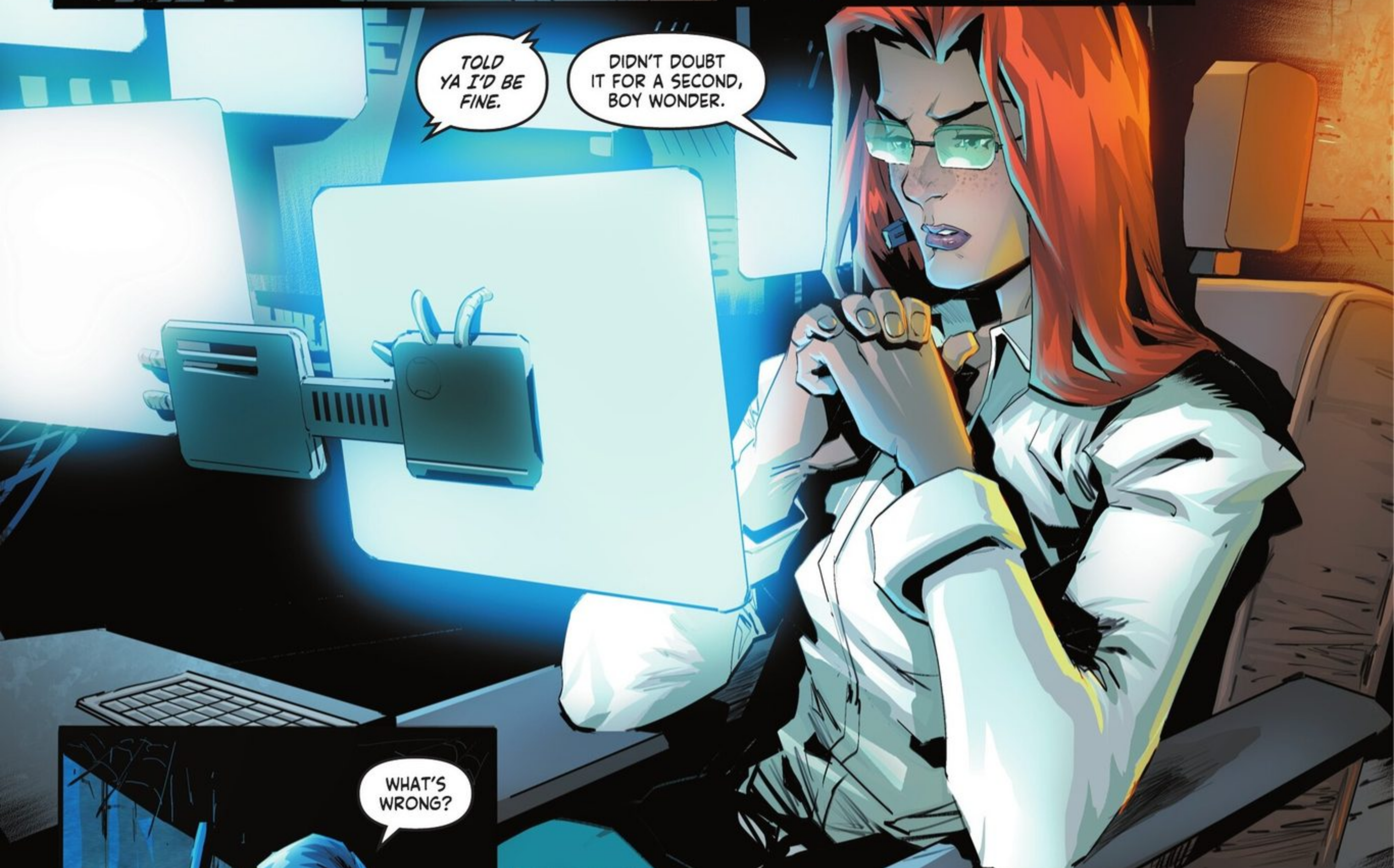


YOU TELL 'EM, KID.



HEY,
GORGEOUS.

DICK,
THANK
GOD.



TOLD
YA I'D BE
FINE.

DIDN'T DOUBT
IT FOR A SECOND,
BOY WONDER.



WHAT'S
WRONG?



NOTHING...JUST
WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
I CAN READ YOUR VITALS
FROM HERE.

NO. IT'S
NOT JUST THAT.
I CAN HEAR IT IN
YOUR VOICE.

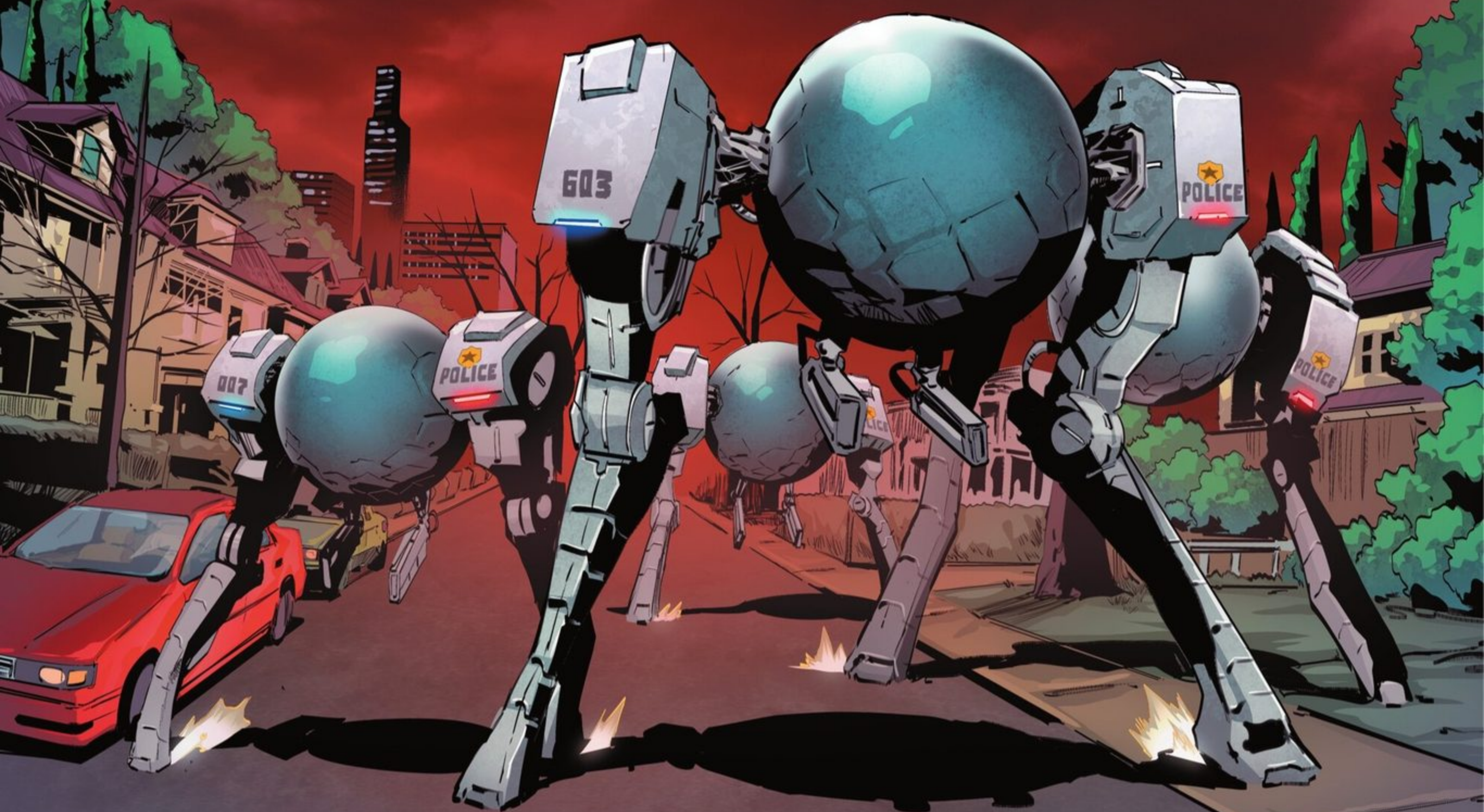


THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN
DO ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW,
DICK. YOU NEED FLUIDS AND
ABOUT TWENTY HOURS OF
SLEEP. YOU ALMOST
JUST *DIED*.

NO
SECRETS,
BABS.

I'VE BEEN
TAPPING SECURE LINES
I SHOULDN'T HAVE
BEEN TAPPING...

"...AND YOUR SISTER
HAS DONE SOMETHING
THAT'S GOING TO UPSET
YOU VERY MUCH."



DICK. I
WAS WORRIED
YOU WEREN'T
SPEAKING
TO ME.

PLEASE TELL
ME YOU DIDN'T,
MELINDA.

PLEASE TELL
ME YOU HAVEN'T
JUST AUTHORIZED
SPHERIC TO RELEASE
MAN-HUNTING ROBOTS
ON THE STREETS OF
BLÜDHAVEN.



IS THAT YOUR
BROTHER?!

TELL HIM I
SAY HELLO!

JEEZ, ARE
YOU THERE WITH
OLIVIA PEARCE
RIGHT NOW?

ONE
SECOND,
OLIVIA.



DICK. *I*
AM THE MAYOR, AND
THERE'S BEEN A BOMBING
CAMPAIGN ACROSS
MY CITY.

THE TEDDY
GANG ARE IMPLICATED
IN ONE. *YOU* CAUGHT A
FLYBOI IN THE *ACT*
OF ANOTHER.

AND
OLIVIA PEARCE
ORCHESTRATED
BOTH TO MAKE
ALL OF THIS PLAY
OUT EXACTLY
AS IT HAS.



YOU DON'T **KNOW** THAT. THERE ARE **LIVES** ON THE LINE HERE.

THE TEDDIES AND THE FLYBOIZ EACH HAVE HALF A DOZEN FACTIONS ACROSS THE CITY. WE NEED TO BRING THEM ALL IN.

JUST UNTIL WE CAN FIGURE OUT EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.



I'M OVERSEEING THE OPERATION THROUGH MOUNTED CAMS WITH PEARCE.

THE **WANDERER-01s** ARE ONLY AUTHORIZED TO USE NONLETHAL FORCE UNLESS THE GANGS COME OUT GUNS BLAZING.



AND YOU EXPECT THEM TO ACT RATIONALLY WHEN KILLER ROBOTS START SMASHING THEIR DOORS DOWN?



DICK... ARE YOU OKAY? YOU SOUND OUT OF IT.

DICK?



NIGHTWING?



DICK. YOUR
VITALS ARE ALL OVER
THE PLACE.

YOU'RE IN
NO SHAPE FOR
A KILLER ROBOT
FIGHT.

AWW, BUT
I LOVE A KILLER
ROBOT FIGHT.



SERIOUSLY,
BABS. I'M THROUGH THE
WORST OF IT.

EVERYTHING'S
GOING TO BE FINE.



ISN'T IT
JUST?

AND YOU
CAN STILL SEE
IT, WITH ONE FOOT
IN THE OTHER
WORLD...

HOW
EVERYTHING
IS ALL JUST
FUN AND
GAMES.

YOU'RE NOT REAL.
JUST A LINGERING
HALLUCINATION.





THAT'S PROBABLY ENOUGH, OLIVIA. WE JUST NEED TO DRIVE THEM OUT OF THEIR LAIRS AND ARREST THEM.



LORD, NIGHTWING WAS RIGHT. SOME OF THEM ARE JUST KIDS.

YES. TO BE EXPECTED.



IT'S SO SAD, ISN'T IT?

HOW ALL PROGRESS IS BUILT ON THE BONES OF THE YOUNG.

OLIVIA... CALL IT OFF!



I WAS ONLY A LITTLE GIRL WHEN I RAN AWAY.

DID YOU HEAR ME, PEARCE?! CALL THAT **ROBOT** OFF NOW.



I RAN AWAY AND JOINED THE **CIRQUE**.

OH... NIGHTWING WAS RIGHT.

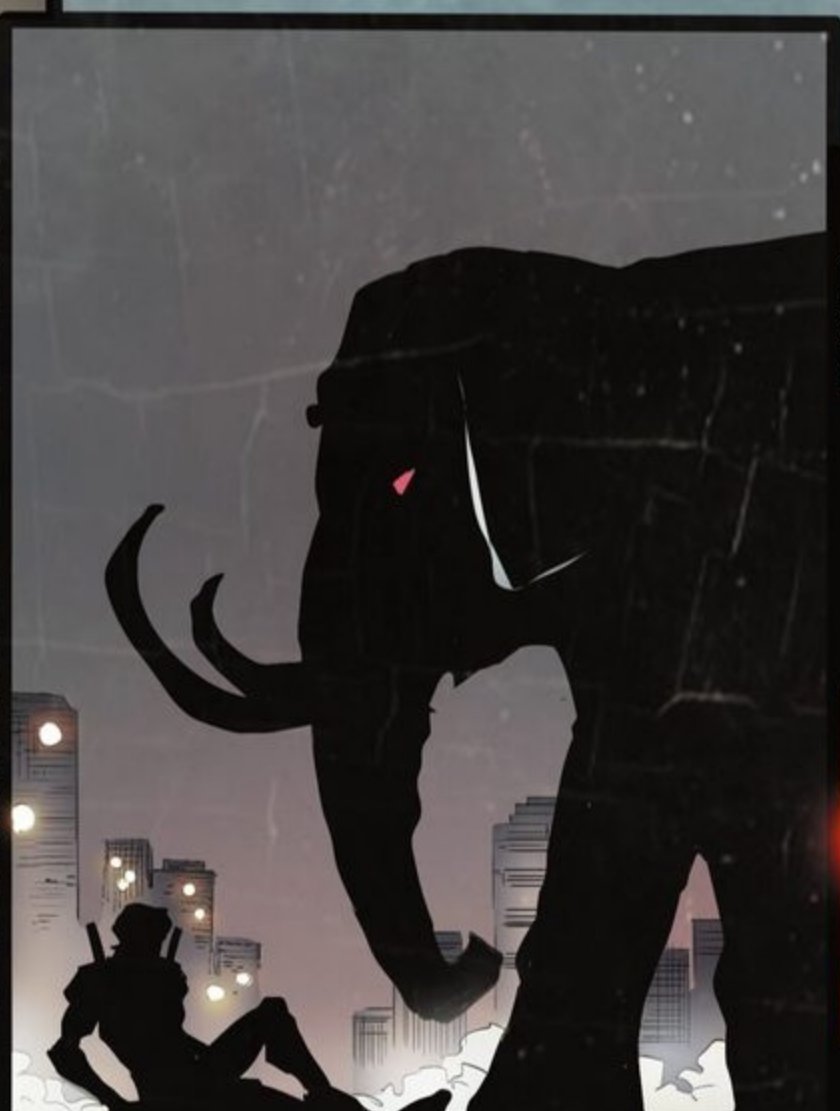
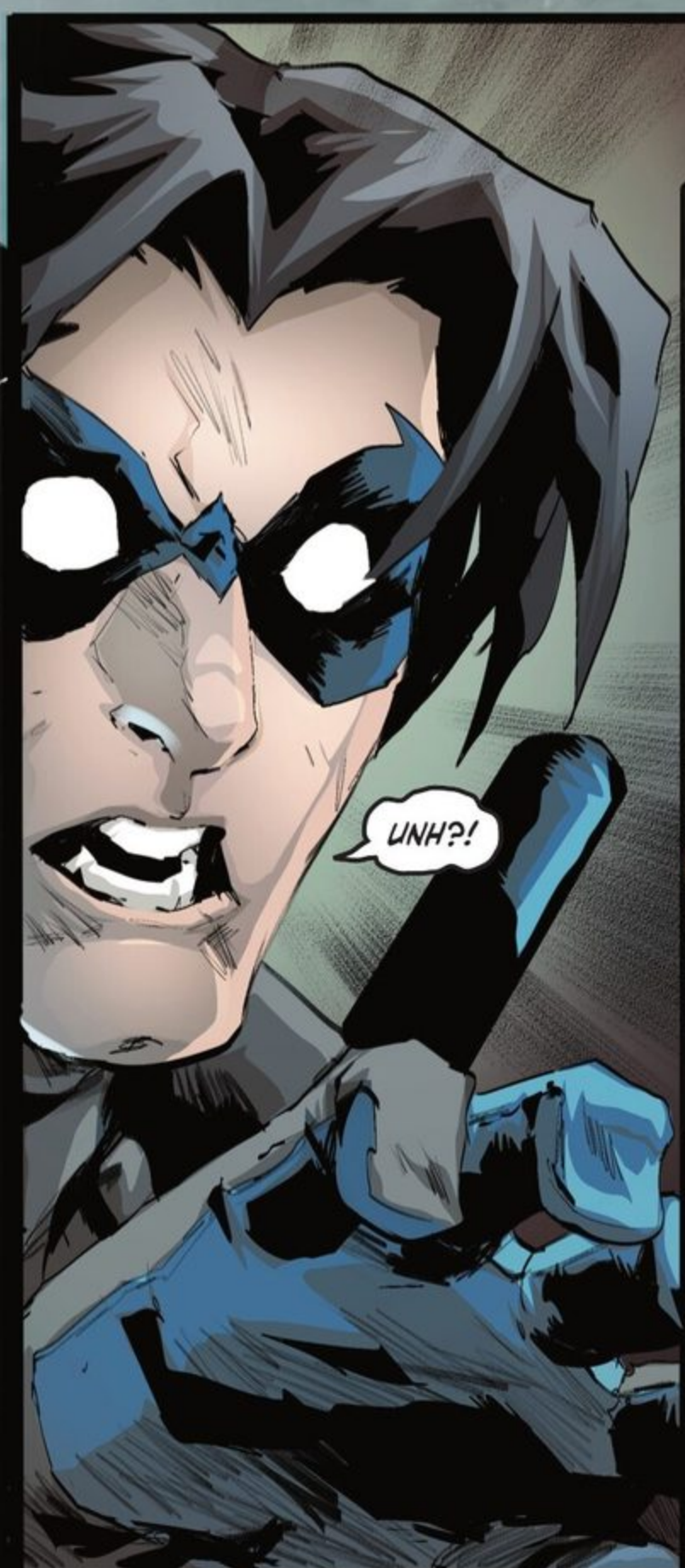
HE WAS **RIGHT** ABOUT YOU.



I'VE BEEN WITH THEM SO LONG NOW, I'M NO LONGER **ME**.

THEY MADE ME SOMETHING BETTER. SOMETHING **STRONGER**.











YUH-YOUR
FACE...

WH-WHAT'S
W-WRONG WITH
YOUR *FACE*?!



THE CIRQUE
IS GOING TO SAVE
THE CHILDREN.

ALL THOSE
LOST AND
FORGOTTEN.

HE'S GOING
TO MAKE THEM
MAGNIFICENT AND
MAGICAL.



YOU'VE
PLAYED AN IMPORTANT
PART HERE, MAYOR
GRAYSON-LIN...

...BUT IT'S HIS
TURN. TO MAKE UP FOR
TRYING TO TAKE AWAY
MY FAMILY.



TO SAVE THE NEXT
GENERATION, THE ZANNI
NEEDS THEM TO COME TO
HIM WILLINGLY...

"...HE NEEDS A
RINGMASTER TO
LEAD THEM."

WE GOT
'IM.

BUH-BRYCE?

WE GOT
'IM, DIDN'T WE,
BOSS?

ON WITH THE SHOW

◆ **Finale: Ringmaster** ◆

DAN WATTERS WRITER DEXTER SOY ARTIST VERONICA GANDINI COLORS WES ABBOTT LETTERS DEXTER SOY WITH VERONICA GANDINI COVER
JORGE FORNÉS AND GLEB MELNIKOV VARIANT COVERS AMANCAY NAHUEL PAN 1:25 VARIANT COVER GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI WITH ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ COURTSIDE VARIANT COVER
JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR NIGHTWING CREATED BY MARV WOLFGAN AND GEORGE PÉREZ



BOSS?

ABSOLUTE

MARTIAN MANHUNTER

#1 PREVIEW

WRITER **DENIZ CAMP**
ARTIST **JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ**
LETTERS **HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU**

YOU LOOK FOR
IDENTIFIABLE
PATTERNS.

ANYTHING
TO MAKE THE
WORLD NOT
RANDOM.

THAT'S WHAT
STOCHASTIC
MEANS.

RANDOM.

(How do
I know?)

PDDR,
TRAPPED
THINGS. LIGHT
THEMSELVES
ON FIRE TO
ESCAPE.







I STAY AWAKE ALL NIGHT, TRYING NOT TO THINK OF...



...OF THE SMOKE...

...OF WHAT'S WAITING FOR ME IN IT...



HAVE YOU EVER TRIED NOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING?



IT'S ALL YOU CAN THINK OF.

TO BE CONTINUED IN

ABSOLUTE
MARTIAN MANHUNTER #1

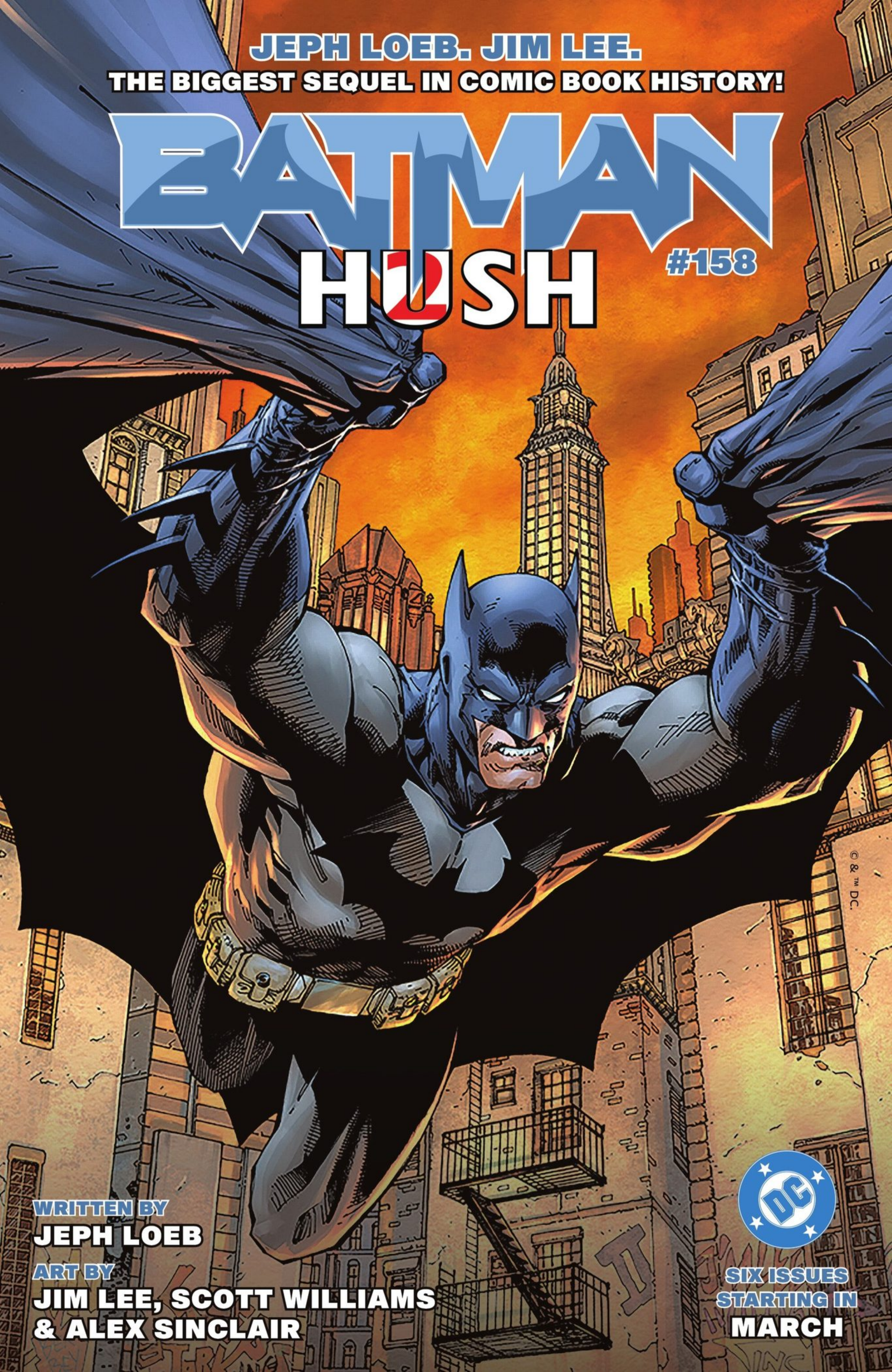
ON SALE IN MARCH!

JEPH LOEB. JIM LEE.
THE BIGGEST SEQUEL IN COMIC BOOK HISTORY!

BATMAN

HUSH

#158



WRITTEN BY
JEPH LOEB

ART BY
JIM LEE, SCOTT WILLIAMS
& ALEX SINCLAIR



SIX ISSUES
STARTING IN
MARCH

BATMAN HUSH

INTERVIEW WITH JEPH LOEB AND JIM LEE

For more than two decades, “Hush” by writer Jeph Loeb and artist Jim Lee has stood as one of the most popular and influential Batman stories of the 21st century. Now the comics superstars have reunited for a six-part sequel starting in *Batman* #158 and titled “H2SH,” with Hush, the titular villain introduced back in 2002, out for revenge against the Dark Knight.

Why was now the right time for “H2SH”?

Jim Lee: We’ve talked about coming back and doing a follow-up to “Hush” for a while. For a variety of reasons, the timing was never right. Because we’re doing the All In initiative, where we launched the Absolute line but still wanted crazy things to happen in the core line, it made this return to Hush the right opportunity.

The challenge we had was, how do we recapture that excitement, yet do something new? Jeph, to his credit, crafted a story that feels very much like the opposite side of the coin to what he did 20 years ago. It establishes a new status quo for Batman, new villains, new looks, new locations.

Jeph Loeb: For 20 years, everywhere I’ve gone, people have asked me whether or not we’re going to do it again. My answer was always very honest: When Jim’s ready to go, I’ll be ready to go. I was in a little tiny airport in Italy, outside of Lucca; my phone rings, and Jim says, “I think it’s time for us to revisit these characters and to really come up with something that can not only build on what we did 20 years ago, but take it to the next level.” That was the challenge. Certainly artistically, I have no doubt in my mind that Jim, Scott [Williams], and Alex [Sinclair] outdid themselves.



How has Hush himself evolved between these two stories?

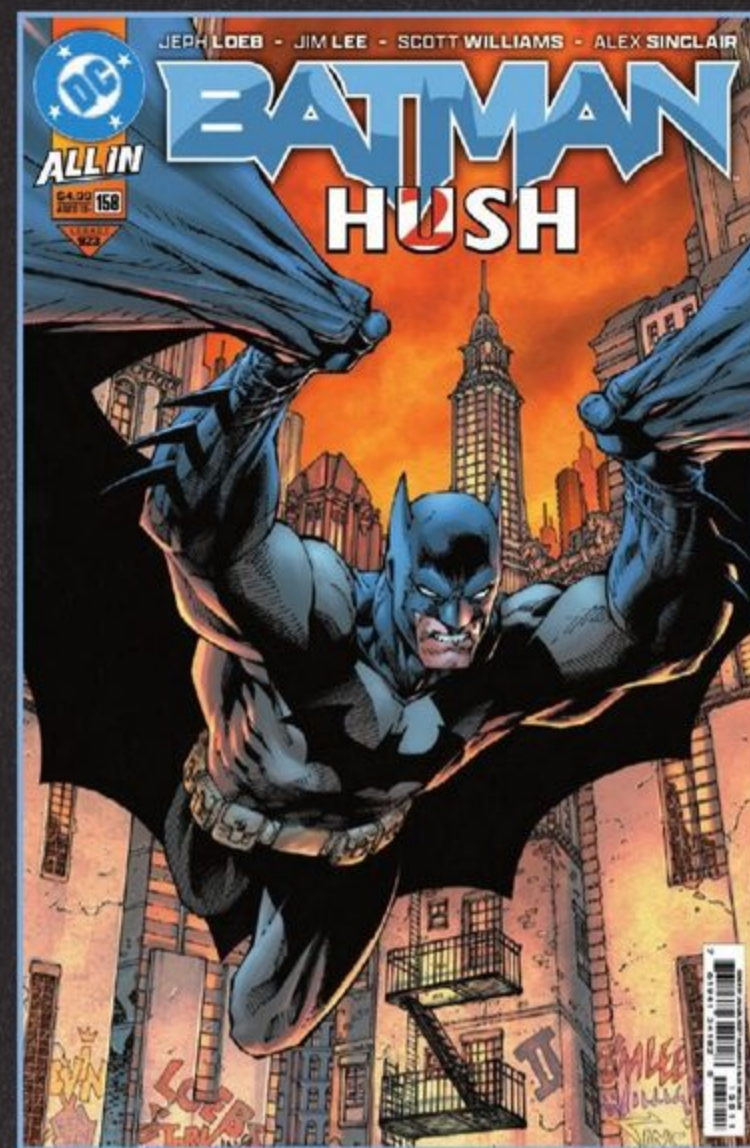
Loeb: So much of what we did in the first story was to play with, “Who is Hush? What does he want? What’s going on?” We’ve now established all that, so in many ways, this is a revenge story. He’s learned so much, and one of the great things about the character is that he’s a master manipulator. He likes the game of it. It’s like moving pieces on a chessboard. You don’t want to always play the same game. You want to take it in a new direction.



Jim, in what ways has your visual approach to these characters changed since the original “Hush”?

Lee: All the characters resemble the iconic versions of themselves, but we changed surface elements—melding the work that was done 20 years ago with the work we’re doing today.

We’re trying to do new kinds of shots, new angles, new color schemes. We’re challenging ourselves across the board, because we know there are high expectations. It’s also a great way to motivate ourselves, to do hopefully our best creative work.



DON’T MISS BATMAN #158, THE FIRST CHAPTER OF “H2SH,” ON SALE IN MARCH!

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